

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE Northwest Region 7600 Sand Point Way N.E., Bldg. 1 Seattle, WA 98115

Refer to: OSB2000-0112

June 7, 2000

Mr. Tom Mueller Chief, Regulatory Branch U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District ATTN: Ms. Olivia Romano P.O. Box 3755 Seattle, Washington 98124-2255

Re: Biological Opinion on Barlow Point (Corps Permit 99-1535) Bank Stabilization Project Along

the Columbia River near Longview, Washington

Dear Mr. Mueller:

Enclosed is the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Biological Opinion (Opinion) on the Barlow Point Bank Stabilization Project (permit number 99-1535) as described in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's request for formal consultation dated April 21, 2000. This Opinion addresses Snake River sockeye salmon, Snake River fall chinook salmon, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon, Upper Willamette River chinook salmon, Upper Columbia River spring chinook salmon, Lower Columbia River chinook salmon, Snake River steelhead, Upper Columbia River steelhead, Middle Columbia River steelhead, Upper Willamette River steelhead, Columbia River chum salmon and Lower Columbia River steelhead and constitutes formal consultation for these listed species. The NMFS has determined that the proposed action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of those listed species. An Incidental Take Statement provides non-discretionary terms and conditions to minimize the potential for incidental take of listed species.

Sincerely,

Tor William Stelle, Jr.

Regional Administrator

Enclosure

